

REMARKS

By this amendment, Applicants have added new claim 28 to the application.

Claim 28 corresponds to claim 18 as presented in the Amendment under 37 CFR 1.116 filed August 22, 2007.

The allegation in the Office Communication that the amendment filed July 15, 2008 is not fully responsive is traversed.

In support of the holding that the amendment of July 15, 2008 is not fully responsive, it is alleged in the outstanding Office Communication that newly submitted claims 25-27 are directed to an invention that is independent or distinct from the invention originally claimed. This allegation is incorrect for two reasons.

Firstly, the allegation is made on the basis of the incorrect assumption that previously pending claims 18-24 were drawn only to the embodiment of Figure 1 and not to the embodiment of Figure 7. As noted by the Examiner, previously pending claims 18-24 did not recite the features found in the embodiment of Figure 7, that the urine adsorbent material is laminated. However, what the Office Communication does not recognize is that previously pending claims 18-24 did not exclude the features of the embodiment of Figure 7. Thus, previously pending claims 18-24 were generic to at least the embodiment of Figure 1, the embodiment of Figure 7, as well as at least Figures 2(a), 2(b), 3, 4(a) and 4(b). Since previously pending claims 18-24 did not exclude the features of the embodiment of Figure 7 and were generic to this embodiment, newly presented claim 26, as well as claims 25 and 27 are not directed to an invention that is independent or distinct from the invention of previously pending claims 18-24.

Secondly, only claim 26 specifically recites a laminated adsorbent material and, therefore, cannot be read on the embodiment of Figures 2(a), 2(b), 3, 4(a) and 4(b). Even assuming, arguendo, claim 26 to be drawn to an invention independent

or distinct from the invention set forth in previously pending claims 18-24, claims 25 and 27 do not recite such features. Thus, claims 25 and 27 are generic to both embodiment of Figure 7 and the embodiment of Figure 1, as well as at least Figures 2(a), 2(b), 3, 4(a) and 4(b). Therefore, clearly claims 25 and 27 should have been examined as generic claims.

In any event, Applicants have now added previously pending claim 18 back into the application as new claim 28. It is submitted claim 28 is patentable for the reasons set forth in the remarks accompanying the amendment under 37 CFR 1.116 filed August 22, 2007, such remarks being incorporated herein by reference in their entireties.

For the foregoing reasons, examination of all of claims 25-28 are requested

To the extent necessary, applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case: 503.43626X00), and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP

/Alan E. Schiavelli/

Alan E. Schiavelli
Registration No. 32,087